AMERICAN MGB ASSOCIATION

AMERICAN MGB ASSOCIATION

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www.amgba.com
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Octagon

JUNE 2015

North America's Largest, Oldest and Best!
The Official Registry for MGBs, MGB-GTs and Midgets
Established in 1975

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INSIDE:

AMGBA Meet 2015 in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina and more!

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AMERICAN MGB ASSOCIATION *ESTABLISHED 1975*

American MGB Association
OCTAGON
Volume 41 Number 2 - June 2015

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The **American MGB Association (AMGBA)** is North America's official registry for MGBs, MGB-GTs and Midgets. It is the **largest and oldest** club for MGBs, MGB-GTs and Midgets and is a nonprofit organization founded in 1975. The AMGBA holds annual national meets and has members throughout North America and the world. Membership benefits include the color *Octagon*, the eOctagon (sent to email address), technical advice, member recommendations on service, body and parts, registration for your MG, a tradition of service and much more!

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John Giannasca	1975-1978
Richard Horan	1975-1978

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AMGBA REGALIA / CLUB STORE

AMERICAN MGB ASSOCIATION

SEND TO:
AMERICAN MGB ASSOCIATION
P. O. BOX 11401
CHICAGO, IL 60611 U.S.A.
or email:info@mgclub.org

or order on our secured website at:
www.mgclub.org or www.amgba.com (choose club store)

Additional merchandise including tote bags, caps, sweat pants, shorts and other items can be found our Fieldhouse Club Store located at www.fieldhouse.com/amgba .

AMGBA Grille Badge, New Style: $ 30
with mounting hardware, 5 colors

Registration dash plaque: $ 2

Member window decal: $ 2

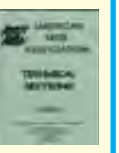
Back printed issues of the *OCTAGON* -
specify issue, where available: $ 5

Sweatshirt,
(maroon w/white logo),
L-XL-XXL $ 28

Polo (Golf style) Shirt ,
(tan w/navy blue logo),
L-XL-XXL: $ 28

T-Shirt, high quality, 50% cotton
(white with blue logo or blue with white logo or dark green w/white logo), L-XL-XXL: $ 18 ea.

AMGBA Technical Sections (Vol. I)
copy of all technical topics published from 1975 to 1987 by the AMGBA, over 300 pages, indexed: $ 30 (emailed pdf file: $20)

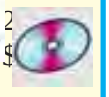


AMGBA Technical Sections (Vol. II)
copy of all technical topics published from 1988 to 1995 by the AMGBA, over 300 pages, indexed: $30 (emailed pdf file: $20)

AMGBA Technical Sections (Vol. III)
copies of technical topics published from 1997 thru 2007, indexed, on ***CD-Rom***
in pdf format (or emailed), over 300 pages
for Windows or Apple: $20, ***printed: $ 30***

Tech Sections Combos: Vol. I & II Combo: $ 55
Vols. I, II & III (Vol III on CD or emailed) Combo: $70
Vols. I, II & III (all printed): $80 (all emailed pdf: $50)

Complete past issues of the *Octagon*
on CD (or emailed) in pdf format, over 2
pages, for PC or Mac (1998 thru present): $



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SHIPPING/HANDLING CHARGE: ($1 to $6: no charge) ($6 to $30: $ 5)
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All CD versions can be emailed with no shipping charges and are compatible with both Windows and Apple operating systems.
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MAKE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYMENT TO: "AMERICAN MGB ASSOCIATION"

CHARGE: *Visa/MasterCard/Amex /Discover#:_____ Exp date:_____ Security code: ____*

SEND TO: AMGBA REGALIA, P. O. BOX 11401, CHICAGO, IL 60611 U. S. A

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Frank Ochal

Welcome to the **new members** that have joined since the last issue.

We would like to Les Williamson, Glen Maxwell, Bruce Barrett, T.K. Swiss, Mark Brown and the other contributors to this issue.

Also thanks to **Art Isaacs for his continued work in answering members' technical questions and answers.** Be sure to send in photos and stories so we can include them in future issues of the Octagon.

Meet 2015 will be held in m Myrtle Beach, South Carolina in October in conjunction with the **Grand Strand British Car Club's Britfest.** It promises to be a great time and we hope our members in the Carolinas and in the Southeast will attend. More information on the event is in this issue. Thanks to Rod Smith and Jim Hendricks of the Grand Strand British Car Club for their cooperation in putting this together.

Finally back in stock - An American MGB Association grille badge which has 5 colors with mounting bracket. This is a new style which I am sure our members will like. $30 plus $5 S&H. See photo on the Regalia/Store page or on the New Products and Services Page

Join us on **Facebook** at **American MGB Association** or follow us on **Twitter** at **amgba.**

Classified ads will now also appear on our Facebook Page and Facebook Group and on Twitter as well as the club's website, message board, Octagon and eOctagon.

As requested by our members, **Tech Sections Volume III is now available in printed format as well as CD format**. It previously was only offered on CD. Pricing can be found on the regalia/store page and is priced the same as printed volumes I and II. Combos of more than one volume are also available.

In addition to the items found in our regular club regalia / store, more store merchandise including **tote bags, caps, sweat pants, shorts and other items** can be found at our Fieldhouse Club Store located at www.fieldhouse.com/amgba.

We now have **member grille badges and key fobs**. **Technical Sections Volume III is now available** which continues the great tradition of practical tech advice started with Volumes I and II. In keeping with the times this one is available only on CD for PC or Mac. Another new item in the store is a complete copy of the **past ten years of the *Octagon*** available on CD only for PC or Mac.

Continued on page 10

ARTICLES & PHOTOS

The American MGB Association welcomes articles & photographs from members & will publish items that are of general interest to our members. We will pay for such in the form of credit toward renewal or regalia purchase. Send articles on:

- upkeep and performance hints
- experiences with your MG
- local event & club information
- photographs
- technical information & advice

SEND TO: AMGBA ARTICLES
P. O. BOX 11401, CHICAGO, IL 60611 U.S.A.
OR
email: info@mgclub.org

ADVERTING RATES & DEADLINES

TYPE	*AMOUNT PER ISSUE*
INSIDE COVERS (if available- no color), 7 1/2" H x 10 " V	$150.00
FULL PAGE, 7 1/2 "H x 10 "V	100.00
HALF PAGE, 7 1/2" x 5 "	65.00
QUARTER PAGE, 3 3/4" x 5 "	35.00
EIGHTH PAGE OR LESS, 3 3/4" x 2 1/2"	20.00

Business card ad rate is $20.00 per issue.

For color, if available, add $35.00 to above rates regardless of size

Website Ad (approx. 500 pixels by 75 pixels) - $35 for 3 months, $120 for one year

Message Board sponsor (individual board) - $35 for 3 months, $120 for one year

ISSUE	*CLOSING DATES*
MARCH	JANUARY 1
JUNE	APRIL 1
SEPTEMBER	JULY 1
DECEMBER	OCTOBER 1

Printed magazine advertisers will also be listed on the American MGB Association websites in the advertisers/links sections and the club message board.

Members also receive the February, May, August and November eOctagon by email. Ad rates are $35 for each issue. Deadline is the 1st day of the month prior to the issue.

Classified ads are free to AMGBA members. For others and commercial classified ads are $15.00 per insertion for 35 words or less. Additional words are 30 cents each. Classified ads appear on our website, in the *Octagon* and *eOctagon*, on Facebook and on Twitter. For an additional $15 we will include a photograph.

OCTAGON display ad rates are based on camera-ready copy. Agency discounts will not be honored. A 10% discount is offered to AMGBA members. A 20% discount is offered on yearly contracts. Payment must accompany submissions. Art & typesetting at prevailing rates. We accept Visa, Master Card, American Express, Discover & PayPal to orders@mgclub.org.

AMGBA, PO Box 11401, Chicago, IL 60611 U.S.A.
Ph.: 773-769-7084 , email: info@mgclub.org

MAJOR MG EVENTS CALENDAR

(please check for changes before departing for event)

MAY

29-31 Champagne British Car Festival, IL www.CBCF-Bloomington.com.
30 Cars & Motorcycles of England at Oakburne Mansion, Westtown, PA. www.jcna.com/clubs/dvjc or 609-760-8198.

JUNE

6 31st Annual British Bash, Louisville, KY. email: gbwmn007@gmail.com, 502-727-9246, www.britishsportscarclub.com.
6 British Car Show, Kansas City, MO. www.heartlandmgregional.com.
7 British by the Sea, Waterford, CT. Steve & Annie Wincze, 860-693-4249, mgtd52@comcast.net, www.ctmgclub.com.
11-14 The British Are Coming British Car Festival, Bristol, RI. www.britishmotorcarfestival.com.
12-14 63rd Annual Rallye Glenwood Springs, CO. Joe at 303-791-4902, email: glenwoodrallye2015@comcast.net, www.mgcc.org.
14 22nd Annual British Car Gathering, Hellertown, PA. www.keystonemg.com/hellertown.html or showinfo@keystonemg.com.
21 34th Annual British Car Field Day, Sussex, WI. John at 262-521-1072 or jstockinger4@wi.rr.com.

JULY

12 British Invade Gettysburg British Car Show, Gettysburg, PA. Info at www.lancomgclub.com.
12 Cincinnati British Car Day, OH. www.bccgc.com or Don Falls at 513-410-3897.
25 British Car Show, Hudson, NH. Info at www.bcnh.org.

AUGUST

6-8 Roadster Factory Summer Party, Armagh, PA. www.the-roadster-factory.com.
7-9 31st Summer Party and University Motors Summer Party Reunion, www.universitymotorsltd.com, ph.: 616-301-2888.
23 26th Annual "A Taste of Britain", Rothsville, PA. Larry at 717-285-7379 or mg1lanco@comcast.net, www.Lancomgclub.com.
27-30 Central Pennsylvania British Car Festival, Altoona, PA. www.pabritishcar.com.

SEPTEMBER

13 29th Annual Chicagoland British Car Festival at Harper College, Palatine, IL, www.britishcarunion.com.
19 British Car Show, Ocean Grove, NJ. www.pedc.org.
19 British Car Show, St. Louis. MO. www.stlouismgclub.com.

OCTOBER

3 38th Annual American MGB Association Meet 2015, www.mgclub.org, info@mgclub.org, 773-769-7048 in conjunction with the Grand Strand British Car Club's Britfest, Myrtle Beach, SC, www.grandstrandbritishcarlub.com or in South Carolina, Rod Smith, jrodsmith@yahoo.com, 843-651-7644.

Please submit news of your MG event 3 months in advance

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Book with your travel agent or Alamo®. Be sure to request I.D. Number 93149 and Rate Code BY (A1 for weekend rentals) at the time of reservation.

*Discount applies to base rate only. Taxes (including GST/VAT), other governmentally authorized or imposed surcharges, license recoupment/air tax recovery and concession recoupment fees, vehicle license fee, road fee, premium location charges, airport and airport facility fees, fuel, one-way rental charge and optional items are extra. Renter must meet standard age, driver and credit requirements (may vary by country). 24-hour advance reservation required (up to 72 hours for licensee locations). May not be combined with other discounts. Availability is limited. Subject to change without notice. Blackout dates may apply. In the United States, offer valid only at airport-serving locations.

AMERICAN MGB ASSOCIATION MEET 2015 - MYRTLE BEACH, SOUTH CAROLINA

Contact: The American MGB Association at 773-769-7084, info@mgclub.org or www.mgclub.org

The American MGB Association's 38th Annual Meet - AMGBA MEET 2015 - for the MGB, MGB-GT & Midget - Myrtle Beach, South Carolina - October 3, 2015

MG sports car production as we know it was discontinued in 1980 with the closing of the famed Abingdon-On-Thames works in the United Kingdom. But these modern day classics are being preserved forever here in North America by members of the American MGB Association which serves enthusiastic MGB, MGB-GT, and MG Midget owners throughout the USA, Canada and throughout the world. Each year, the AMGBA holds its National Meet.

The 1978 initial gathering was held in Chicago. In 1979 and 1980 the AMGBA National Conventions were held in New York state, in Ithaca and Glens Falls. The organization's success led to renting the world famous Indianapolis 500 Motor Speedway in 1981 for the AMGBA National Convention. In 1982, the AMGBA held its National Convention outside the USA in Kingston, Ontario, Canada. In the years 1983 and 1984, the AMGBA went west for the first time in Lake Tahoe, California and Boulder, Colorado. In 1985, the AMGBA held two conventions in Santa Barbara, California and Abingdon, Illinois. In 1986, we visited Texas during its 150 year anniversary in San Antonio, Texas and in 1987 we visited the Saratoga Springs area of beautiful upstate New York. In 1988, the convention site was Kansas City, Missouri. In 1989, we visited the Great Northwest part of our country in Springfield, Oregon.

In 1990 the convention was held in Atlanta, Georgia which was a first for that area of the country. In 1991 we returned to the site of our first convention in Chicago and in 1992, we returned to the West Coast to the beautiful San Francisco Bay area in Palo Alto, California. In 1993, we traveled to New England at Keene, New Hampshire near the site of the Westminster MG Museum. In 1994, we went for the first time to the San Diego, California area at the Del Mar race track. In 1995 we went to Memphis, Tennessee, home of the blues and Elvis Presley. In 1996 we joined with all of the major MG clubs in North America for MG Indy '96 in Indianapolis, Indiana at the Indy 500 track. In 1997 we were on the West Coast in the San Francisco area at Palo Alto, California. In 1998, we were in Charlotte, North Carolina at the Lake Campus of Davidson College. In 1999, we went to Los Angeles, California.

In 2000, we went to Armagh, Pennsylvania and joined with the TRF Summer Party and in 2001 we were in Houston, Texas for the Houston MG Club's All British Motor Vehicle Exposition. In 2002 we again went to the San Francisco, California area for the Palo Alto British Car Meet. For 2003 we visited Florida and the Space Coast in Titusville, Florida. In 2004, we visited picturesque Cape Cod in Massachusetts for the Cape Cod British Car Club's British Legends Weekend. In 2005, we were in San Diego, California at Fairbrook Farms in Bonsall for San Diego British Car Day. We were in Maryland in 2006 at the MGs on the Rocks Show and in 2007 we went to Charlotte, North Carolina at the MGs on the Green Show. In 2008 we were in Armagh, Pennsylvania with The Roadster Factory Summer Party and for 2009 we planned for a show in the Central Valley of California.

In 2010 we went to Sussex, Wisconsin for the British Car Field Day. For 2011 we were in Ohio for the first time at Dayton in conjunction with the Annual British Car Day at Eastwood Metropark. We went to the Jersey Shore in 2012 with the Annual Brits on the Beach Show in Ocean Grove, New Jersey. In 2013 we visited Mississippi for the first time to the oldest city on the Mississippi River in conjunction with the English Motoring Club of Mississippi's Brits on the Bluff Show in Natchez, Mississippi. In 2014, we were at New England's largest British car show at the British Invasion in Stowe, Vermont.

And for 2015, we will be in South Carolina for the first time at the Grand Strand British Car Club's Britfest in Myrtle Beach on October 3, 2015.

It promises to be a great time and a memorable experience for all that attend. For more information contact the above, write to the American MGB Association, P.O. Box 11401, Chicago, IL 60611, call 773-769-7084, email us at info@mgclub.org or explore our website at www.mgclub.org.

AMGBA MEET 2015

MYRTLE BEACH BRITFEST

HELD AT

THE MARKET COMMON
MYRTLE BEACH,
SOUTH CAROLINA

SPONSORED BY

WWW.GRANDSTRANDBRITISHCARCLUB.COM

GRAND STRAND BRITISH CAR CLUB

SATURDAY, OCT. 3, 2015

On Behalf of the Entire Grand Strand British Car Club, We Welcome You to Our Third Annual Car Show at The Market Common! In addition to all of the beautiful British cars, only 2 blocks away is The Market Common which boasts lots of shops, restaurants and a cinema so your weekend will be packed with fun for everyone! Please, register early and plan to stay the weekend to soak up all of the fun!

The Grand Strand British Car Club's Myrtle Beach Britfest will be held at The Market Common (former Myrtle Beach Air Force Base) located on Farrow Parkway between Highway 17 Business and Highway 17 By-Pass.

Driving South on Highway 17 Business:
Turn right on Farrow Parkway and proceed 1 mile to The Market Common.
Driving North on Highway 17 Business:
Turn left on Farrow Parkway and proceed 1 mile to The Market Common.
Driving South on Highway 17 By-Pass:
Exit right, turn left on Farrow Parkway, and proceed 2 miles to The Market Common.
Driving North on Highway 17 By-Pass:
Exit right, turn right on Farrow Parkway, and proceed 2 miles to The Market Common.

Dash Plaques will be given to all pre registration entrants and will be available for some late and "day-of" registrations.

Award Plaques or Trophies will be presented to winners in each Class with at least one entrant.

Special Award for the entry with the "Best Picnic Presentation".

A portion of the 50/50 raffle tickets will be contributed to **Canine Angels Service Dogs**, a nonprofit group that rescues dogs from shelters and trains them to become service dogs. More information about the organization can be found at www.CanineAngelsServiceDogs.org.

Places to Stay Close to Market Common:

Springmaid Beach Resort

Springmaid Beach Resort If interested, call them at tel. (843) 315-7173 or visit their website at www.SpringmaidBeach.com.

Myrtle Beach State Park Campground is located on the beach just off Hwy. 17 within 10 minutes of The Market Common. Call the MBSP at tel. (843) 238-5325 for more information or visit their website at www.mbeachsp@SCPRT.com.

South Carolina State Parks

Red Roof Inn is located just 1 mile from the The Market Common at 2901 South Kings Highway with on-site parking for vehicles and trailers of all sizes. Also, they are pet friendly. Call tel. (843) 626-4444. Visit www.RedRoofInn.com for info.

Red Roof Inn

Car Class Numbers:

1 Austin Healey 100 / 3000 (side curtain)
2 Austin Healey 3000 (roll up windows)
3 Austin Healey Sprite / MG Midget
4 Austin Healey Bugeye Sprite
5 Bentley / Rolls Royce
6 British Motorcycles
7 Jaguar pre-XK, XK120 / 140 / 150
8 Jaguar E-type SI, SII, SIII
9 Jaguar & Daimler Saloons MK's, 420
10 Jaguar & Daimler XJ6 / 8 / 12; XJ, XF
11 Jaguar XJS, XJR
12 Jaguar XKE, XK, XKR
13 Jaguar S-type, X-type
14 Jensen & Jensen Healey
15 Lotus
16 MG A
17 MG B (chrome bumper)
18 MG B (rubber bumper)
19 MG BGT (all years)
20 MG C
21 MG T series
22 Mini (original) and variants
23 MINI (BMW)
24 Morgan
25 Rover
26 Special Interest (not listed elsewhere)
27 Sunbeam
28 Triumph TR 2 / 3 / 3A / 3B
29 Triumph TR 4 / 4A
30 Triumph TR 6
31 Triumph 250
32 Triumph TR 7 / 8
33 Triumph GT6 (all years)
34 Triumph Spitfire MK1 / MK2 / MK3
35 Triumph Spitfire MK4 / 1500
36 Triumph Stag
37 Triumph other
38 TVR
39 British pre-war (before 1946)
40 Diamond in the Rough
41 Aston Martin
42 Replicas

NOTE: The entrant selects the class designation of car on this form. Award Plaques or Trophies will be presented to winners in each Class with at least one entrant. GSBCC has the right to eliminate, combine, or add classes, and to reassign entries to other classes if deemed necessary by the Judging Committee.

Myrtle Beach Britfest Registration

(PLEASE print clearly)

name:_____

address:_____

city-state-ZIP:_____

club affiliations:_____

_____

email:_____

telephone:_____

Entry #1 class:_____ $25 early -or- $30 late

yr-make-model:_____

Entry #2 class:_____ $15 each additional

yr-make-model:_____

Early registrations (postmarked by Sep. 15, 2015) $25 first car entered + $15 each additional car entered.
Late Registrations (postmarked after Sep. 15, 2015) $30 first car entered + $15 each additional car entered.

T-Shirt Order:

small _____
med _____
large _____
X lg _____
XX lg _____
total _____
x $ 20/ea
= $_____

Total Entry and T-Shirt Order Fee that you are enclosing: _____

Event Agenda:

9:00 - 11:00 am Show Field Open & Late Registration
1:30 pm Popular Voting Ends
2:30 pm Awards Presentation, Raffles, Etc.
Off-Road Trailer Parking available next to show field.

RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY

I am aware of the hazards inherent with motor vehicle events, and I specifically release and indemnify the GSBCC organizers, The Market Common, and their management both collectively and separately from any liability for personal injury or property damage incurred by me or my guests while participating in this event.

The undersigned has read and voluntarily signs the release and waiver of liability and indemnity agreement and further agrees that no oral representations, statements, or inducements apart from the forgoing written agreement have been made.

_____
signature date

Complete this registration form, make out a check in the amount of the Total Entry and T-Shirt Order Fee you calculated in the middle column payable to "GSBCC", and mail both to:

Bill Unger, MB Britfest Registrar
457 Francis Marion Dr.
Georgetown, SC 29440
tel: (843) 527-7840

For more information, contact:
Rod Smith, MB Britfest Show Chairman
email jrodsmith@yahoo.com
tel. (843) 851-7644 / 222-2201

Or visit: www.GrandStrandBritishCarClub.com

WHEATON, ILLINOIS AUTOJUMBLE

The Wheaton, Illinois Autojumble & Swap Meet is organized and conducted by the Chicagoland MG Club alone although it has the enthusiastic support of all the other British car clubs in the Chicago area. The event now includes all marques of European sports cars and motorcycles and is conducted with the goal of providing a meeting place of buyers and sellers of used parts, new parts, accessory items, tools, memorabilia and just about anything of else of interest to the European sports car and motorcycle enthusiast.

The 13,200 sq. ft. facility had 65 vendors occupying 85 spaces displaying their wares. Over 550 shoppers participated. The American MGB Association participated with a table where it welcomed members with club information and club regalia for sale.

Chicago's 19th Annual All British Swap Meet and Autojumble on March 15, 2015 in Wheaton, Illinois

AMGBA Table at the Show

Vendors at the Show

The Nuffield Award given to the Chicagoland MG Club

Vendors at the Show

The parking lot had some MGBs despite the cool March weather at Chicago's 19th Annual All British Swap Meet and Autojumble on March 15, 2015 in Wheaton, Illinois

Editor's Desk

Continued from page 5

AMGBA **members receive the** *Octagon*, now published in March, June, September and December and the eOctagon, published in February, May, August and November.

We offer **a 3 year membership or renewal rate which includes a free t-shirt or tech volume III CD.** The rate is $95 or $125 for members outside the USA. We also have a **3 year eMembership for $65 which also includes a free t-shirt or tech volume III CD.** Save money and get a t-shirt or tech CD!

The club has a **Message Board at http://board.amgba.com**, a **Blog located at http://blog.amgba.com**. American MGB Association members are able to place ads and access more tech info. The AMGBA **Photo Gallery is located at http://photos.amgba.com**. The same login is used for the Gallery as the Message Board. Members can place their car photos directly at this location.

Send us your email address so that we can send you the **eOctagon.** The eOctagon is sent via bulk email so if you are blocking this type of email you will not get it.

Please send in your stories and photos to be used in the Octagon. You will receive a **credit toward renewal or regalia.**

You need an **ID and password to access the "members only" section of our website at www.mgclub.org.** You will find the ID and password on page 3 of the *OCTAGON*. These change with each issue so be sure to use only the ones listed in the latest issue. Also now you can to **create your own id and password for the members only section**. Submit the form on the members only page to do this.

Hope to see you at many of the summer shows and Meet 2015 in Myrtle Beach!

Frank

LOCAL CHAPTERS

If you have news of your local club activities, please send it to:

AMGBA Local Chapters
P. O. Box 11401
Chicago, IL 60611 U.S.A.
or FAX: 773-769-3240

MG

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THE EOCTAGON, MESSAGE BOARD, PHOTO GALLERY, SOCIAL NETWORKS & BLOG

Members can receive **the eOctagon**, which is our email newsletter. This is in addition to the regular *Octagon* and is sent to members that have given us their email address. Members therefore can receive **eight publications per year.**

Send us your email address if you have one. If you have not received an eOctagon by this time it is because we **do not have an email address for you** or not the correct one. Please send us your updated email address so that we may send you the eOctagon and also correspond with you quickly when necessary. Members without email addresses will not miss anything but may receive the information in a different format and at a later date because of printing and mailing considerations.

Our message board is accessible through the club website at www.amgba.com or directly at **http://board.amgba.com**. We have a members only section of the message board. You can use the user id and password on page 3 of each *Octagon* or you can get a personal id and password. To do so, register and then login to the message board and send a message to us. This allows posting of items for sale and photos and access to the club Members Section.

The club a blog located at **blog.amgba.com**. Members can publish items or comments to the Blog and can upload photos at **photos.amgba.com.**

Join us on **Facebook** at **American MGB Association** or follow us on **Twitter** at **amgba.**

LOCAL CHAPTERS AND HOW TO CONTACT THEM

of the American MGB Association, P. O. Box 11401, Chicago, IL 60611 U.S.A. 773-769-7084

Arizona MG Club - 633 E. Hartwell Rd., Gilbert, AZ 85234. dlk2626@cox.net, www.azmgclub.org
California (So. Cal. MG Club) - Tom Panagos, 5192 Evergreen Ave., Cypress, CA 90630, prez@scmgc.org, www.scmgc.com
California (San Diego) - Doug Pulver, P. O. Box 710111, San Diego, CA 92171. (619) 278-5359
Connecticut MG Club - Dave Werblow (860) 267-1432, mgdavid@yahoo.com, www.ctmgclub.com
Florida (Central) MG Club - P. O. Box 651, Winter Park, FL 32790. (407) 671-5110.
Florida (MG Car Club) - 1340 Woodlawn Circle NE, Palm Bay, FL 32905 (321) 723-2232, fs.wright@att.net http://mgclubflorida.tripod.com/mgclubflorida
Florida (Hogtowne Chapter) - Clyde Ellis, 420 NE Blvd., Gainesville, FL 32601. (904) 375-7326
Georgia (Peachtree MG Registry) - Richard Neale, Box 728, Loganville, GA 30052, (770) 466-2649, rjneale@bellsouth.net
Illinois (Prairie Octagon MG Club) - P. O. Box 746, St. Joseph, IL 61873. (217) 469-2007
Illinois (Chicagoland MG Club) - P. O. Box 455, Addison, IL 60101. (630) 858-8192
Indiana (Hoosier MG Club) - Connel's MG Service, 6667 E. 38th St., Indianapolis, IN 46240. (317) 545-6108
Kentucky (BSCC) - British Sports Car Club, P. O. Box 91934, Louisville, KY 40291, www.britishsportscarclub.com.
Maine (New England MG Club) - P. O. Box 207, Eliot, ME 03903. (207) 774-0002
Maryland (MGs of Baltimore) - R. Liddick, 5237 Glen Arm Rd, Glen Arm, MD 21057. (410) 817-6862, www.mgsofbaltimore.com
Massachusetts (Boston Area MG Club) - Erickson & Snook, 420 Washington St. Ste. LL-10, Braintree, MA 02184. (978) 834-0999, www.bostonareamg.com
Michigan (Windsor-Detroit MG Club) - Jeff Zorn, 29311 Aranel, Farmington Hills, MI 48334. (248) 489-1855.
Minnesota MG Group - Bob Anderson, 1316 Martha St N, Stillwater, MN 55082, (651) 439-6876, www.mn-mggroup.org, minn.mg.group@gmail.com.
Mississippi (English Motoring Club) - John Turbeville, 23 Rochelle St., Brandon, MS 39047. (601) 664-3473, www.msemc.org
Missouri (Greater Ozarks British Motoring Club - GOBMC) - Rod Miller, 1325 Liberty Rd., Rogersville, MO 65741 (417) 753-7000.
Missouri (MG Club of St. Louis) -Mike Fishman, 1247 Creve Coeurxing, Apt. J, Chesterfield, MO 63017. (314)453-0331
Missouri - Kansas (K. C. MG Club) - Steve Olson, 3540 N. Kenwood, Kansas City, MO 64116. (816)452-3450.
Nevada (RenoAll British Car Club) - Frank Oglesby, P. O. Box 70694, Reno, NV 89570. (775) 322-5179.
New Jersey (British Motor Club of South Jersey) - Ted Cianfrani, 60 Girard Ave., Erail, NJ 08081. (609) 346-1987.
New Jersey (Central Jersey Centre) - Steve Wagoner, P. O. Box 435, Covent Station, NJ 07961. (201) 361-8314
New York (Buffalo Octagon Association) - P. O. Box 236, Bowmansville, NY 14026. (716) 683-9380.
New York (Cortland MG Club) - Vincent Patriaco, 34 Hubbard St., Cortland, NY 13045. (607) 753-8000.
New York (Eastern NY) - Ray Schwarz, 38 Shadyside Avenue, South Nyack, NY 10960. (914) 358-8247.
New York (Long Island) - 117 Truburg Ave., N. Patchoque, NY 11772, (631) 475-2889, www.mgcars.org/mgcclic
North Carolina (Metrolina MG Club) - 5056 Dresden Ct., Monroe, NC 28110, (704) 219-1581, www.metrolinamgcarclub.com
North Carolina MG Car Club - Konrad Schoen, 2206 Englewood Ave., Durham, NC 27705. (919) 286-3109
Ohio (Central) MGB Association - Bob Metzler, 4771 McFadden Rd., Columbus, OH 43229. (614) 888-7970
Ohio (Emerald Necklace Reg.) - ENMGR Inc., P. O. Box 81152, Cleveland, OH 44181. (216) 678-9394.
Oregon (Willamette MG Club) - 1750 Stone Hedge Dr. N.E., Keizer, OR 97303. (503) 746-8440.
Pennsylvania (Philadelphia MG Club) - 104 Valley View Rd., E. Norriton, PA 19401. (610) 275-7960, PrezSteve@PhillyMGClub.com
Pennsylvania (Greater Pittsburgh MG Club) - Thom Shepler, 430 Darrell Dr., Pittsburgh, PA 15235. (412) 371-8021
Rhode Island (British MotorCars of New England) - 134 Covington Rd. Warwick, RI 02886, (401) 539-2879, www.bmcne.com
South Carolina (Grand Strand British Car Club) - Jim Hendricks, Surfside Beach, SC, (843) 902-0491, www.grandstrandbritishcarclub.com
Tennessee (So. Br. Car Club, Chattanooga) - P. O. Box 71537, Chattanooga, TN 37407. (423) 614-8897, www.SouthernBritishCarClub.org
Texas (Alamo MG Association) - 111 Covina, San Antonio, TX 78218. (210) 655-8968, jearl@satx.rr.com
Texas (Houston MG Car Club) - Box 441-1241, Houston, TX 77244, president@houstonmgcarclub.org, houstonmgcarclub.org
Virginia-D.C. - Maryland (Metro DC Chapter) - Don L. Phillips, 11308 Nancyann Way, Fairfax, VA. (703) 385-8984.
Washington (Northwest Centre) - P.O. Box 84284, Seattle, WA 98124. (253) 924-0218

AMGBA LOCAL CHAPTER REGISTRATION FORM

Send the information on this form if you wish to become a registered local chapter of the American MGB Association

NAME OF ORGANIZATION: _____

AREA TO BE SERVED (be sure to check current local chapters) :_____

ORGANIZERS NAME:_____

MAILING ADDRESS FOR LOCAL CHAPTER:_____

PHONE NO.:_____ Other (email, website, FAX): _____

Please list on separate sheet of paper: 1) approximate number of members expected; 2) club activities planned; 3) name of club newsletter; 4) chapter dues; 5) problems encountered; 6) type of help from the national club wanted.

Requirements: 1) supply the AMGBA with current address and phone numbers; 2) AMGBA on mailing list to receive newsletter; 3) all members need not be but at least two officers must be members of AMGBA; 4) annual list of members submitted to AMGBA.

Benefits: 1) free publicity in *OCTAGON* and on CLUB MESSAGE BOARD by way of listing, etc.; 2) affiliation with other clubs is permitted; 3) consideration for hosting national meets; 4) discounted membership if a substantial number of members join from a local chapter; 5) use of Message Board local chapter section as a message/ information tool (members notify us of local club affiliation so that their message board id can be upgraded).

SEND TO: AMGBA, P.O. BOX 11401, CHICAGO, IL 60611 U.S.A. or email: info@mgclub.org

NEW PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

In this section we highlight new products and services specifically for MG owners.

MG BONNETS

SC Parts Group Ltd
14 Cobham Way
Gatwick Road
Crawley , West Sussex
RH10 9RX United Kingdom

website: www.scparts.co.uk
email: sales@scparts.co.uk

phone: 01293 847209 .

Now available from SC Parts - help with the excessive heat in the engine bay. It is well known that the MGB suffers from excessive heat in the engine bay as it has little or nowhere to escape. With our new louvered steel bonnet this goes some way to help eradicate the problem and also gives you the works type look.

New bonnets for MGB steel, louvered part no. 492868 only £242.86 not including carriage. Just one of the many new products we have available for the MGB. A fully illustrated MGB catalogue is available on line at our website www.scparts.co.uk.

TECH SECTIONS VOLUME 3 ON CD OR PRINTED AND PAST OCTAGONS CD

American MGB Association
Ph.: 773-769-7084
email: info@mgclub.org
website: www.mgclub.org

A complete copy of all the Technical Sections, topics, questions and answers published in the *OCTAGON* from 1997 to 2007. Available on CD-ROM for PC or Mac (or emailed). It is indexed by category such as electrical, suspension, etc. for easy reference and accessibility and contains over 300 pages. Available from the AMGBA by ordering on the website or by using the order form contained in the *Octagon.*

The CD version is $20 plus $5 S&H. It can be purchased as part of a 3 volume combo containing Tech Sections Volume I, II & III for $70 plus $10 S&H. The printed version is $30 plus $5 S&H. It can be purchased as a 3 volume printed combo that contains Tech Sections Volume I, II & III for $80 plus $10 S&H.

Technical Sections Volume I and Technical Sections Volume II are also available from the AMGBA. See the Club Regalia/Store area. They are indexed by subject for easy reference and each contains over 300 pages and over 600 articles, topics, questions and answers.

Also: Octagons since 1998 are easily accessible on your computer. Indexed by issue. These publications, which are no longer in print contain numerous and diverse articles and photos. Available from the AMGBA by ordering on the website or by using the order form contained in each issue of the Octagon. Over 2000 pages. $15 plus $5 S&H.

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440 Rutherford Street
Goleta, CA 93117
Phone: 800-667-7872
www.mossmotors.com

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* Mikuni carbs are chosen due to their build quality, and inherent resistance to modern fuels
* Moss' buying power allows them to buy Mikunis at a lower price and pass the savings on to customers
* Conversion kit is typical to all of Moss' kits in that it is complete. The customer does not need to do any fabrication

AMGBA GRILLE BADGES BACK IN STOCK!

American MGB Association
Ph.: 773-769-7084
email: store@mgclub.org
website: www.mgclub.org

Finally back in stock. An American MGB Association grille badge, 5 color with mounting bracket. This is a new style which I am sure our members will like. $30 plus $5 S&H

IN THE NEWS!

MG3'S FIRST PUBLIC SHOWING IN EUROPE

IN THE NEWS!

If you see MG or MGB news that you think would be of interest to our members, please send it to us.

The MG Car Club is delighted to confirm that the first public showing in Europe of the compact new MG3 will be at MGLive! Held at Silverstone, the home of British racing on June 15-16, 2015. MGLive! is the world's largest celebration of everything MG, making it the perfect event to reveal the fun new hatchback to friends of the marque.

Taking style cues from the MG ZERO concept car, the MG3 is the epitome of modern British style. The new small MG will also be launched with a wide range of colours and personalisation options and a selection of these will be on public display for the first time at MG Live!

MG Car Club General Manager Julian White said: "At the MG Car Club we represent every model of MG from the very earliest to the very latest and are looking forward to welcoming MG3 into the family. MGLive! is the MG Car Club's annual celebration of all things MG that attracts new and old friends of the marque from right across the world.

"We are truly delighted to include the European public debut of the MG3 as part of the weekend's celebrations. In addition to the full MG display, MG3 will also play an important role in the MG Car Club display, with a line up of MG's ranging from a 1929 18/80 to this latest model. "Guy Jones, MG's Sales and Marketing Director, said: "The British Design and Engineering teams take pride in the fact that MG3s will soon be leaving the production line in Birmingham. MGLive! is the perfect launch pad for MG3 to ensure fans of the brand have the first chance to see the new MG.

"MG3 is a distinctive statement of British style in an affordable, small car that is fun to own and drive. It is the modern execution of the values that made the brand globally famous and the perfect addition to the range to attract both new customers and loyal fans back to the brand. There's a great range of colour and styling options to make ordering one more fun, so why not come along and style your own personal MG3!"

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MEET THE NEW MEMBERS!!

Margie Springer

This section highlights some of the new members that have joined the club since the last *OCTAGON*. Recent members may appear in a subsequent issue.

Ed Cooke, Greensboro, North Carolina

Paul Englert, Canton, Illinois

Jeffrey Long, Stamford, Connecticut

Hugh A. Havlik, Port Charlotte, Florida
Hugh has a '75 white B roadster.

Michael Warin, Mount Ayr, Iowa
He has a '76 white B.

Bruce Phillips, Canton, Michigan
He has a '77 blue B.

David Bryan, Naperville, Illinois
David joined the club for his friend, Dr. Abhin Singla.

Marion Clapper, Gypsum, Kansas

Michael Carnell, Charleston, SC
Michael has a '77 Brookland green B.

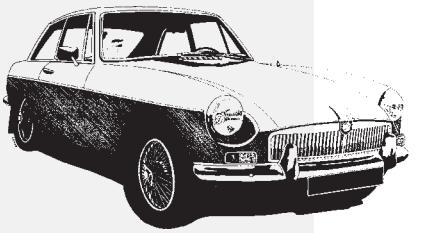
Jeffrey Leachman, Louisville, Kentucky
Jeffrey has a '74 1/2 Carmine red B roadster.

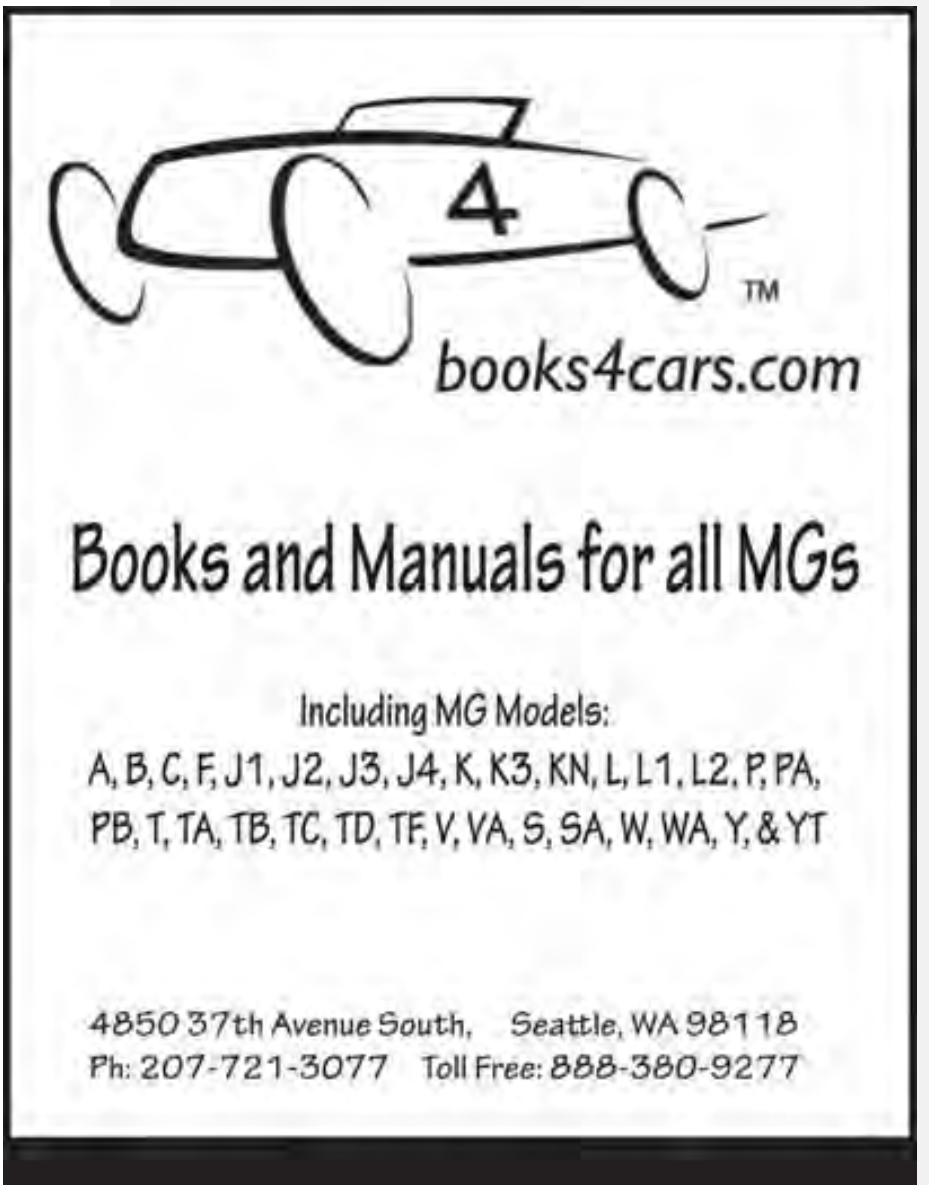
Brad Curtis, Simons Island, Georgia
Brad has a '64 red B roadster.

Ron E. Mason, Columbia, Missouri
Ron has a '67 red MGB-GT.

Gary Graham, Orlando, Florida

Dr. John G Briggs, Fayetteville, NC
Dr. Briggs has a '69 black B-GT.

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THE ROADSTER FACTORY WILL PAY YOUR DUES

The Roadster Factory will pay your American MGB Association Dues. Spend $850.00 at The Roadster Factory during the current year, retroactive to January 1st, and TRF will pay your dues or your next renewal. Sales amount is determined on a calendar year basis from January 1st through December 31st of the current year.

When your purchases reach $850.00 during the current year, call our sales line and speak to our salespeople. They will take your information and communicate your renewal to the AMGBA.

You must request a membership or a renewal when you are eligible based on your purchases from the Roadster Factory.

The Roadster Factory has parts for all of your British cars and can be reached at 1-800-2234-1104 or at www.the-roadster-factory.com

FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

Margie Springer

I will be spending more time in Florida (yes, a snowbird-to-be) where my husband retreats to our condo to escape the cold New England winters. I am not sure that one car will be enough so may be in the market for a little rust free B to tool around town. Happy thing to contemplate. If I get a Midget, I probably could keep it on the lanai! Just joking.

.I hope you all around the country will keep up "the MG spirit" and drive as much as you can. The silver lining is, if you can't drive, you have time to spiff up your British baby, install new carpeting, repair that mysterious knock, whatever. If you live where you can go out year round - my best wishes go with you for many safe and happy trips.

Calls to the AMGBA office in Chicago usually hit an answering machine first. Messages are forwarded to me on the East coast after the Chicago group does as much as can be done there. I do not see the checks at all so I rely on the forms or notes included to enter new information on members, such as how many years the membership will be renewed for, any new address or name changes. Please print whenever possible to prevent needless errors. Happy motoring wherever you may be.

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

NEW MEMBERSHIP - CAR REGISTRATION - RECOMMENDATIONS - RENEWAL - ADDRESS CHANGES

check box: ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

NAME:_____

ADDRESS:_____

CITY:_____ STATE: _____ ZIPCODE: _____

You can also join or renew on our secured website at: ***www.mgclub.org or www.amgba.com or americanmgbassociation.com***

COUNTRY (if not USA): _____ PROVINCE (if CANADA): _____ POSTAL CODE:_____

Home Phone:_____ (if applicable) Member No._____ Exp. Date:_____

Mobile Phone: _____ Email: _____ (needed for eOctagon and/or eMembership)

OPTIONAL (1-5):

1) **CAR REGISTRATION:** Year Serial Number (VIN #) Model Color

MG Number 1: _____ _____ _____ _____

other - (type of wheels, overdrive, etc.):

MG Number 2: _____ _____ _____ _____

other - (type of wheels, overdrive, etc.):

2) Areas of interest:

3) **MEMBER RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Service, body or parts shop recommendation - Name:_____

Address:_____ City:_____ State:_____ Zipcode: _____

Type of business:_____ Phone: _____ Person: _____

email:_____ website:_____

4) Picture and/or story about your car (sent by mail or email)

5) How you heard of AMGBA: _____

Membership/renewal fee: $35 for 1 yr, $65 for 2 yrs, $95 for 3 yrs with free t-shirt* or tech CD, please circle choice.

(Outside the USA: $45 for 1 year, $85 for 2 years or $125 for 3 years with free t-shirt* or tech CD, please circle choice)

__ 1 year eMembership-$25, __ 2 year eMembership-$45, __ 3 year eMembership-$65 with free t-shirt* or tech CD, circle choice, (eOctagon & access to website Members Only section, no materials via regular mail)

Enclose a check or money order made payable to "AMGBA" if renewing or joining the club.

OR CHARGE IT! *Visa/MasterCard/Amex/Discover #:*_____ *Exp date:*____

Check one: 1 year ___ or 2 years ___ or 3 years ___ Credit Card Security Code: ____

or call 773-769-7084 and leave credit card info

SEND TO: AMERICAN MGB ASSOCIATION, P.O. BOX 11401, CHICAGO, IL 60611 U.S.A. or FAX: 773-769-3240

****NOTE: Free t-shirts are available in Large, Extra Large and Double Extra Large and the color is based on availability but usually white.***

MG GALLERY

This picure was taken the day I left for the US Navy in December 1977

I was 18 when I purchased this little gem, a MGB from my cousin in Middlesboro, Kentucky. I paid for it with money from bussing tables and washing dishes. I didn't know when I would get back so I put her up for sale. I left for Navy Boot Camp that day. And my now '77 B is undergoing restoration and some interior work.
Les Williamson
Corbin, Kentucky

'77 MGB of Les Williamson from Corbin, Kentucky

One month before retirement after four years active Navy and 16 years with the Naval reserve and thirty one years with the US Postal Service.
My 1977 MGB.
thirty three years later.

MG GALLERY

see many more members' cars photos on our Internet Photo Gallery at http://photos.amgba.com

In each issue of the *OCTAGON* we will be featuring photographs of members' cars. If you would like you and/or your car to appear, please send a picture to us.

On Our Cover: '72 B of Glen Maxwell of Athens, Illinois

'79 B Bruce Barrett

'76 B of T. K. Swiss

J.C. TAYLOR

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AMGBA TECHNICAL SERVICES

AMGBA TECHNICAL SECTIONS

A complete copy of all the Technical Sections, topics, questions and answers published in the *OCTAGON* is available. Volume I contains reprints of the *OCTAGONs* published from 1975 to 1987. Volume II contains reprints of the OCTAGONs published from 1988 to 1995. Volumes I & II each sell for $30 plus $5 S&H. Volume III contains reprints of the OCTAGONs published from 1997 to 2007, is on CD-ROM for windows or Apple operating systems, and sells for $20 plus $5 S&H **and in printed format for $30 plus $5 S&H. You can have Volumes I and II for $55.00 plus $10 S&H or Volumes I, II and III (volume III in CD format) for $70 plus $10 S&H or Volumes I, II and III (volume III in printed format) for $80 plus $10 S&H.** All CD versions can also be emailed with no shipping charges. (Combo of all 3 emailed for $50). Each volume is indexed by subject for easy reference and each contains over 300 pages and over 600 articles, topics, questions and answers. *Send to: AMGBA Technical Sections, P.O. Box 11401, Chicago, IL 60611 U.S.A.*

REPAIR SHOPS, PARTS SUPPLIERS AND BODY SHOPS

The American MGB Association maintains a list of member recommended mechanical repair shops, parts suppliers and body shops. For the location of such an establishment in your area write to us at*: AMGBA Recommendations, P. O. Box 11401, Chicago, IL 60611 U.S.A.* The complete list is also available on our website (www.mgclub.org) in the "members only" area. Please note that the AMGBA assumes no liability or responsibility for the work of such shops and is merely passing on recommendations sent in by members. If you believe a facility should be on our list please inform us.

TECHNICAL STAFF

The American MGB Association Technical Staff is prepared to assist you with questions that you may have regarding mechanical repairs and other general information about MGs. Please address all questions to the technical staff at the following addresses. Please give your membership number and use discretion when calling. Your question will be answered by mail and may also appear in the *OCTAGON* if it is of general interest to our members. You may also log onto a message board area on the web for help with your technical questions at www.mgclub.org or go to http://board.amgba.com or on our Facebook group page at American MGB Association.

Art Isaacs 32 Bear Brook Lane Livingston, NJ 07039 (973) 422-0253 email: chfwrench@aol.com	David Nock British Car Specialties 2060 N. Wilson Way Stockton, CA 95205 (209) 948-8767	Ray Marloff P. O. Box 2970 Ft. Bragg, CA 95437
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QUEEN B

This issue's Queen B is the '72 B roadster of Glen Maxwell from Athens, Illinois. Here is his story:

I purchased this car in March 2014 from Country Classic Cars in Staunton, Illinois after looking at several others, all of which were either priced too high (for my budget) or in immediate need of major mechanical repair and/or body work. This on looked decent, ran well and was moderately priced.

The major mechanicals seemed to be in good order and he engine externals and all of the hydraulics looked to be in either new or recently rebuilt. There was some bondo on one front corner (fender bender repair) but the body was straight and rust free. The paint was an old respray from the original dark green to the current red. It was reasonably well done and still looked presentable. The interior was original show some wear and fading., but still serviceable with no cuts, tears, or broken seams. The top was an old replacement in pretty good condition. The only things needing immediate attention were some spotty lighting and the tires, which looked nearly new but had major flat spots. In the glove box were several old repair receipts from shops in Columbus, Ohio. The most recent was dated June 2001 at 105,707 miles and the current odometer reading was 05,875.

I managed to contact the car dealer who had found it and several other old cars sitting in a barn some miles north of Columbus. They had done all of the recent work to get the car running, cosigned it to auction and it ended up in Staunton. I have been addressing the

QUEEN B

To have your car considered for the Queen B, send a photograph and history or story of the car to:

AMGBA Queen B
P. O. Box 11401
Chicago, IL 60611
or email:
or email: info@mgclub.org

'72 B of Glen Maxwell

QUEEN B (CONTINUED)

remaining bits and pieces in need of TLC, all relatively minor in nature.

Over the year I have owned it, the car has accumulated a total of 5000 miles with only two on the road problems: one flat tire and a failure of the ignition switch start position. It has earned several trophies at local car shows: two first and two thirds in class and one top twenty overall. Not bad for an unrestored barn find/daily driver.

Now with much help from my brother-in-law, a retired body man, the car is getting its restoration. The bondo from a couple of old fender benders and rust repairs is being replaced with new metal. Aside from the lower edges of the skin, the only rust

'72 B of Glen Maxwell

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TECHNICAL SECTION - QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Please note: Questions and answers are provided for information and advice purposes. No liability either express or implies is assumed by reliance on the information presented either by the writers or the American MGB Association. Some or all of the below is from our message board at board.amgba.com and Facebook group page at American MGB Association.

Also be sure to see our message board on our website and our Facebook group page for immediate help from fellow members.

for faster responses to your tech questions go to our Internet Message Board at board.amgba.com

Q: My '79 Midget has a headache. The ignition key is frozen solid in the ignition switch, and you can't turn the switch to start the car. I looked in the service manual to see how to replace the ignition switch, and that is sure a job! Remove air duct hose, disconnect the steering shaft from the rack and pinion unit, pull things outward and downward while disconnecting the electric stuff, then drill out the one-direction screws for the ignition switch unit, and so forth.

Is there an easier fix to try? Maybe grab the ignition key with vice grips, work things back and forth, and hopefully break loose the obstruction? Appreciate any advice.

Bill Fortenberry
Warner Robins, Georgia

A: Sorry for your troubles, but the method described is reasonably what needs to be done. I can short-cut a few things to make it less involved, but it is pretty much as you are seeing it.

I've never had to drop the column from the instrument panel. A lot of work and a big pain to do. Also, while there has been known to be wear and/or damage to the electrical switch at the back of the lock (ignition switch - Victoria British part number 0-315), it is usually in good shape. It can be removed by loosening the 3 very small screws that hold it to the lock. If in good shape, you would not have to address any wiring, just the lock assembly (Victoria British part number 0-319; about $100). I'm not sure that includes the shear bolts (p/n 18-017), but they can be ordered separately. You can also try starting your car using a needle nose pliers to turn the switch shaft.

Next, have you tried spraying WD40 into the switch and then turning the key while 'rocking' the steering wheel? Also, not so obvious, remove the steering column covers and then ignition switch (the electric piece on the back of the lock opposite the key described above) and try using a screwdriver or other tool to move the lock from the back side to loosen it while again rocking the steering wheel and key. Douse it all well with Liquid Wrench or WD40 beforehand. Requires 2 sets of hands and sometimes works, it is usually what everyone has already done first, but just a thought.

Now, assuming the thing is really stuck good. The ignition switch assembly is held in place with 2 break-off bolts. The heads break off on tightening to prevent theft and tampering. Bad news is they cannot easily be removed. Good news is they cannot be overtightened, so are usually fairly easy to extract once drilled or slotted, if you use those methods.

From there you a few choices, all involving the use of a cut-off wheel and either a drill, Dremel tool or an electric or air powered cutter (all available cheap from Harbor Freight, if you don't have one). Making sure all other wires and apparatus (i.e.: signal lamp and wiper controls) are either clear, covered or removed from the steering column, see how easy it is to access the tops of the bolts. See if you can center punch the top of each bolt to give a place for a drill bit to find and start. With the drill or a bit in the Dremel tool, try to drill a hole in the top of each of the break-off bolts for an extractor tool to remove them. The extractors are also available from Harbor Freight or Sears if you don't have them. Not as easy as it sounds. Besides the lack of clearance in the interior to do this without damaging something (why they go with dropping the column), the bolts are designed to be tamper-proof, so getting the punch centered and then gaining any kind of traction accurately with the drill is difficult.

Some have also tried to use the Dremel (preferred because it is smaller) to cut across the bracket into the tops of the shear bolts to create slots so as to be able to use a flat tipped screwdriver to remove the bolts (hence the remark about not being over-tightened). Again, accuracy is not as easy as it sounds and after 30 some odd years, the bolts could then be frozen in place to the lock and unable to be moved with just the screwdriver.

My preferred method is to use either the Dremel or an air powered cut-off wheel to attack the upper bracket that hold the switch to the column or go in from the sides to cut the bolts themselves. Either way, it destroys the lock and brackets, but they're useless anyway. Faster with less of a chance to do other damage, this can be done fairly easily, though I advise caution and taking your time as to not risk cutting anything else or damaging the column in either cutting, chiseling or prying away the brackets.

The lock has a pin that goes into the column to hold the shaft from moving when locked. It generally just drops out, but from years of use, can be slotted and caught on the column or covers, so be careful in handling not to damage the sheetmetal column covers maneuvering it out. Installation is fairly straight forward; with the lock going back in 'unlocked' (column lock pin retracted). Just check the alignment before breaking-off the bolt heads or you will starting over again.

I hope that helps you. Let me know

how you do or if you find anything else.

Safety Fast!

Art Isaacs

Q2: I do have a Dremel tool with lots of accessories for it, including various kinds of cut-off discs and cut-off wheels. One cutting wheel is titanium, and it will cut hardened steel almost like a hot knife through butter.

A few more questions please: You didn't mention specifically about disconnecting the steering shaft from the rack & pinion, so the steering shaft can be pulled forward to give access to all the things inside the steering column covers. I assume disconnecting the shaft is definitely needed, and once you've done that, you can pull the steering unit outward toward the interior of the car (away from the dash / instrument panel)? What do you do then, to drop the unit down some to work on things? Or is that even needed once the unit is pulled outward sufficiently?

In replacing the electric ignition switch, the book says there are two kinds. One has bullet connectors. The other has a single square plug. I guess you'll see what kind you have when you get in there.

After reading what you sent me, and what the book says, I've decided not to re-use or repair any of the old parts. I plan to replace the steering lock, ignition switch, etc. with all new parts. Hopefully Vic Brit or Moss has everything needed. I wouldn't want to be driving and suddenly things lock up so I can't steer the car. That would be real bad! Or I pull in somewhere and park, and find the key jammed so I can't turn off the engine. Or I find the key locked up (like now), so I can't start the car to drive home.

So, I'll simply be cutting off all the old parts with the Dremel, including that bracket you mentioned. That should save time. No working to drill and extract those 2 break-off bolts and so forth. I'll be real careful not to damage any electric wires or the column as I'm cutting off things. Once all the old parts have been removed, I'll install the new ones. Thanks for giving me the part numbers for a lot of what I'll need in the way of new parts.

When I replace things, I won't use new break-off bolts. I will see if I can find regular bolts or screws the right size, in case I ever need to go in there again to do some work. I'm not worried about someone working their way into the assembly to remove those bolts and steal the car. If I can't find regular bolts the same size and thread as the break-off bolt holes, I can drill those holes a little larger and use one of my taps to accommodate a regular fine thread SAE bolt. I might remove the driver seat to give myself more room to work on the steering assembly. On my '61 Midget, removing a seat is real easy, just 4 bolts. I hope it is equally easy on the '79.

As you requested, I'll let you know how things work out with this job. And if I encounter any hiccups I'll send you the question(s). Thanks again for taking the time to answer me with so much detail and all the great info,

Bill Fortenberry

Warner Robins, Georgia

A2: I had said that pulling the column down and certainly disconnecting it from the rack should not be necessary. I've worked mainly on MGB's, but the lock mechanism is exactly the same assembly and even carries the same part number as the Spridget in the V-B catalogs. On the Bs, I've only had to loosen or remove some bolts on the column to facilitate snaking the ignition wires through, not to

Continued on page 26

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QUEEN B (CONTINUED)

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'72 B of Glen Maxwell

damage has been to the inner rocker panels. The rest of the monocoque body has turned out to be straight and rust free. The paint was originally Green Mallard, long ago resprayed to red, and the new paint will be Flame Red. The original interior was faded and starting to come apart in a few places, so it will be replaces with a tan interior. Everything should be completed and the car back on the road by the end of April.

Some of the photos shown are from local show last summer (I am the older guy in the ball cap) except for one from a Halloween night show. It went as a Ferrari 250 and was the only car in costume. The kids there loved it.

'72 B of Glen Maxwell in Disguise for a Halloween Car Show

QUEEN B (CONTINUED)

'72 B of Glen Maxwell

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS (CONTINUED)

Continued from page 23

remove or drop the column. I do not remember the exact distance, but clearance to the dash would be similar to allow travel of the collapsible column in the event of accident. Without need to access the top of the mechanism with a drill, you should be able to remove it from the sides with the cut-off and install it without pulling the column forward. Removing the seat would be a good thing for work room or if just to keep the filings off it.

Unless it is damaged, I would not replace the ignition switch. It will not lock-up, but I would test it operationally and check that the metal back case is tight to the plastic front cover. The plastic cover is held in place with metal tabs that are known for coming loose or even breaking off (usually after a repair of the switch guts). A loose case will ultimately cause internal connection problems, often resulting in stalling while driving, but would not lock the wheel. Mine broke this way on the road travelling to an MG show/flea market in NJ. I used tape to hold it together just to get to the show and then bought (2) used spares for $10 each at the flea market just to get home. The one that I put in at that show is still in place and working; the second still in the boot just in case. That was 10 years ago.

The switch is removable from the back of the lock, as mentioned, and can be left hanging (albeit with possibly cutting some zip ties or harness tape to move out of the way. If you do plan to replace it, you'll need to check under the dash to see which connectors you have. Don't order anything until you have made that determination or are prepared to change connectors later. It does not follow exactly by year. Damn things last over 30 years if maintained, so I would not sweat the break-off bolts. The bolts breaking assures the proper torque as much as to provide security. You may also find standard hex head bolts will not properly fit the bracket, the heads being too large. A narrow spacer of some kind (aluminum or copper tube) may have to be fabricated, but then they may interfere with the covers. I'd suggest trying to find cap (allen type) or torx bolts if you go with something more conventional. Threads, though Whitworth, will correspond to SAE standards, usually fine thread. I'm not sure the size for the column, but you can go to a machine shop or automotive hardware and try some nuts on a removed bolt (or bolts into the removed lack casing) to find what you need.

I enjoy working with everyone and glad if this helps you. I hope I did not miss anything, so write, send photos and ask questions. Take care and good luck.

Art Isaacs

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Windshield for a MG Midget/Sprite. New chrome plating on frame with new glass installed. $795.00 plus shipping. **Also, many other parts for MGB** available after the completed rebuild of my last "B". Contact Roger at 763-420-8159 or rljlolson@embarqmail.com. MN

Parting 1977 MGB. Solid body parts, running engine, all parts available. Also 1966 and 1974 Midgets, MGAs and 1968 MGC/GT. Discounts on new parts, rare and NOS. Geoff and Andrea Rogers, Rogers Motors, 413-259-1722. www.jollyrogersmotors.com.

Weber carb with manifold and filter - $250. **Roll bar** - bolts on to rear shelf and does not interfere with convertible top operation - $275. Call Jack at 910-687-0211.

Two SU HS6 1 3/4 carburetors, intake manifold, heatshield, linkage, K&N 3" chrome air filters. $750. Ph: 929-226-4419.*

MG Original sales brochures: 1960 & '62 MGA, b&w $15; 1963-68 MGB or Midget, $25; 1969-70, same, $18, 1971-80, $15. Specify year, model. Add $4.95 shipping. Have other British plus most cars/trucks, worldwide. Walter Miller, 6710 Brooklawn, Syracuse, NY 13211. 315-432-8282. fax; 315-432-8256. www.autolit.com. (in every issue)

MG Official shop manuals: $20-$42; parts manuals; $30-$48; Owners manuals: $19 Purchase & restoration guides: $19-$38; other books also. Ph: 206-721-3077, www.books4cars.com. (in every issue)

Parts for your MGB, MGB-GT and Midget at http://parts.mgclub.org. Also parts for all MGs and other vehicles! (in every issue)

WANTED

Looking for o**ne 5 x 14 Rostyle wheel** for a '72 MGB. I can sandblast and paint it but I need one that is straight and true with no dents. James Webb, Indiana. webbsclassic@gmail.com or phone: 260-344-3803.

Right and/or left door shell for '66 or '67 MGB. No vent assembly or inside parts needed. colindelphi@cs.com. Location - South Florida. 239-267-3167.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

John Twist at **University Motor**s continues to provide service to the MG owner. Contact him in Grand Rapids, MI for all your MG needs at 616-301-2888 and at www.universitymotorsltd.com.

We can add photographs of your car in our classified ads. For $15 we will include a photograph of you car or item on our photo classifieds page. (Note: This is addition to our normal classified ads rates which are FREE to members and $15 for nonmembers for 35 words or less).

In addition to our regular club store items shown in the club store in this issue and on our website at www.mgclub.org, we have now added items at our fieldhouse store at www.fieldhouse.com/amgba. See the website itself for designs, pricing and colors.

There we have:
Pants - Polos - Shorts -Sweatpants - Sports Shirts -Sweatshirts - Tees - Backpacks - Baseball Hats - Gift Cards - Briefcases - Duffel Bags - Youth Headwear - Blankets - Seasonal Items - Tote Bags - Towels

WARNING: CAR SALES SCAM. The check the "buyer" sends you is a fake. If you deposit it into your account and then obtain a Cashiers Check for the difference and send it to the accomplice, it will be cashed before the fake check you deposited is returned to your bank and charged back to you account. You will be ripped off for the amount of the Cashiers Check that you sent. You might want to warn the members in the magazine.

Charles Kennedy

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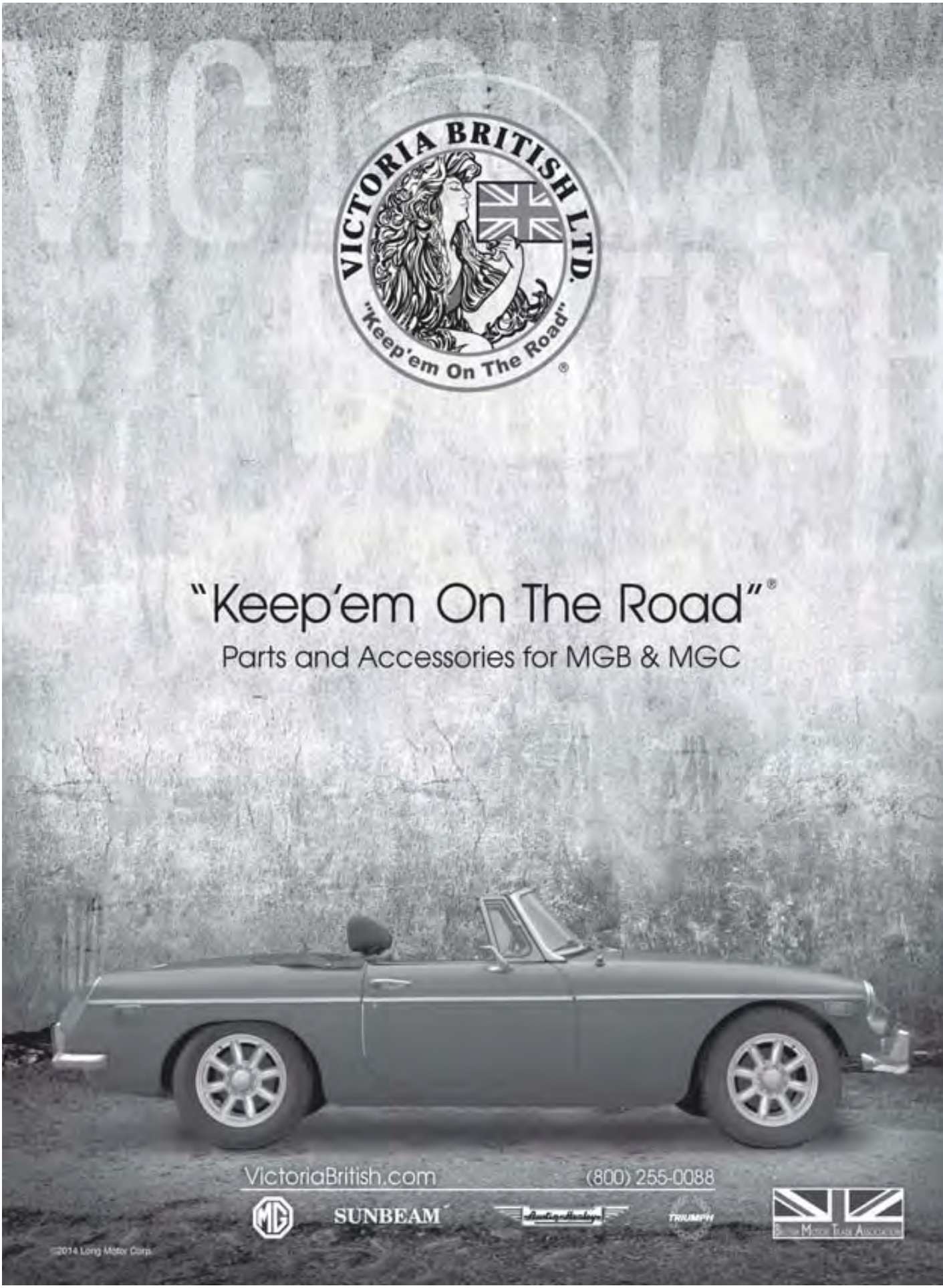
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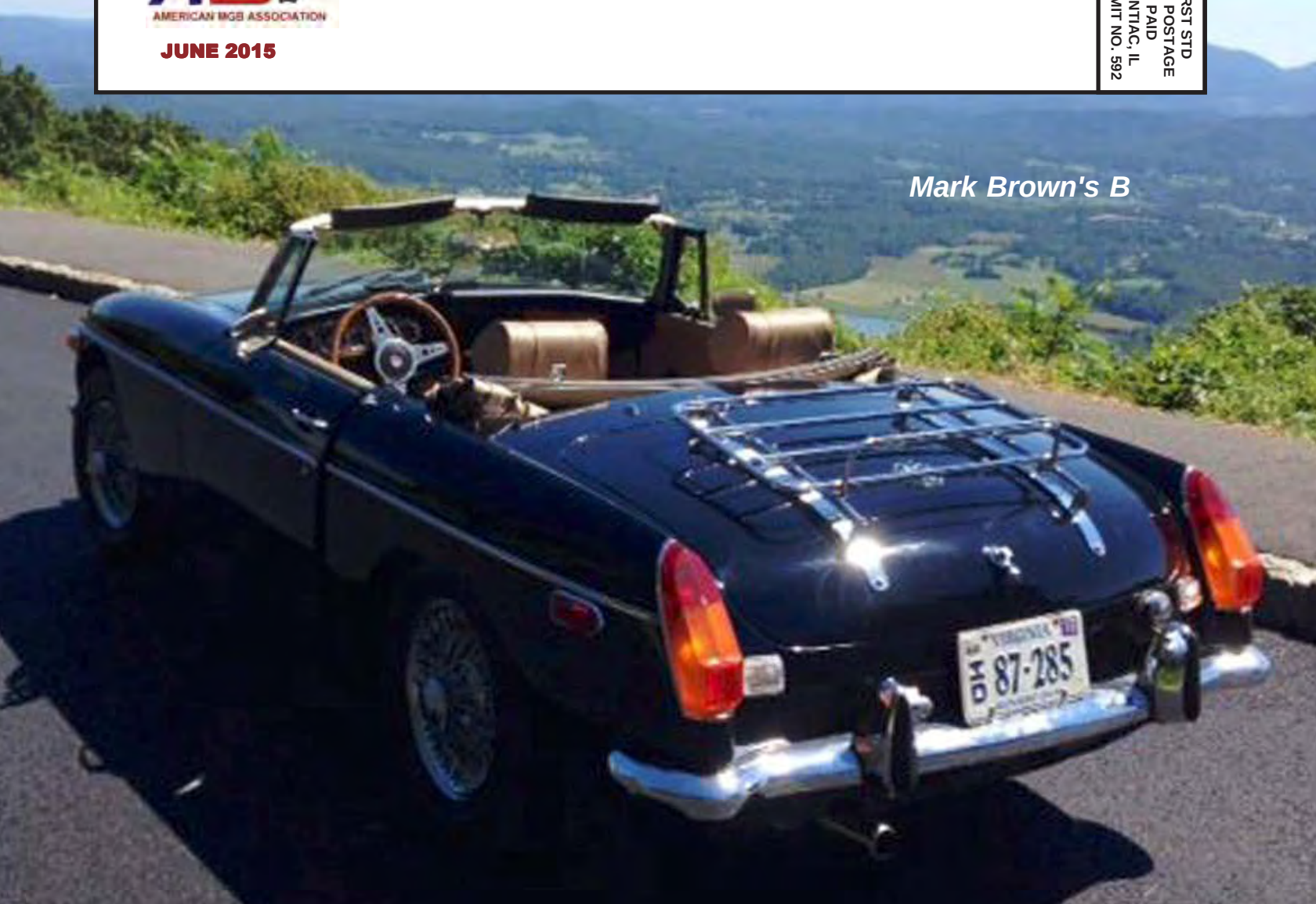

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